

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-7, 9-11, 16-19 and 23-26 remain in this application. Claims 16-19 and 23-26 stand allowed. Claims 6, 7 and 11 are indicated as containing allowable subject matter. Applicant appreciates the allowance of claims 16-18 and 23-26, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6, 7 and 11.

Applicant respectfully requests re-examination.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Pare, Jr. et al* (U.S. 6,230,148) in view of *Walker et al* (U.S. 6,338,049) and further in view of *Bartoli et al* (U.S. 6,407,268). Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claims 5 and 6. Since Claim 6 was indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is now allowable.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1. For the above reasons, applicant submits it is also allowable. Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 5, 9 and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over *Pare, Jr. et al* in view of *Hills et al* (U.S. 6,164,528). Applicant respectfully traverses. Both claims 9 and 10 have been amended to depend from claim 1. Both claims 9 and 10 are seen as allowable for the reasons stated above for the allowance of claim 1.

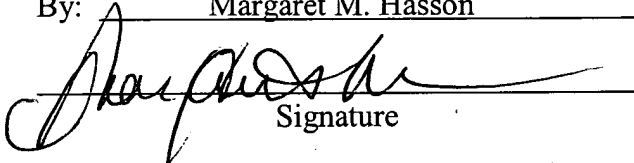
Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and further limit claim 1 with the allowable subject matter indicated therein. Applicant respectfully requests that this claim be allowed.

In light of the above amendment and remarks, applicant respectfully submits that all the claims remaining in the application are allowable and respectfully request that this case be passed to issue.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 5, 2005

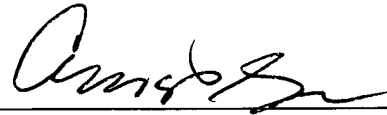
By: Margaret M. Hasson


Signature

Dated: December 5, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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